

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 13 are amended and claims 19 and 20 are added for the Examiner's consideration. Support for the amendment(s) and added claims 19 and 20 is provided in at least Figure 4 and at page(s) 21 of the present specification. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the rejected claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the specification because the title of the invention is on the same page as the Abstract. This objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant notes that there is no prohibition against having the title of the invention on the Abstract page. 37 C.F.R. § 1.72. Applicant submits that the Abstract is in compliance with all requirements pertaining thereto, and the objection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action objects to extraneous matter at the top of page 38. This objection is respectfully traversed. A new page 38 is attached hereto with the extraneous matter removed therefrom. The objection should now be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,867,110 issued to Naito, *et al.* ("Naito"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The invention is directed to a system for managing objects, such as computers, based on position data. More particularly, the invention is directed to assist and help identify and locate an object to be managed more efficiently. In embodiments, the invention is directed to a system including a database configured to provide easy on-site storage and retrieval and editing of information about machines, for example, to be managed within the site. It should be noted that the system may operate with one or more host computers where each host computer

communicates with one or more portable terminals. In some embodiments, the retrieval of location information is independent of the position of the portable terminal. The system additionally allows information to be entered into the host computer through the portable terminal for purposes of managing the database stored in the host computer. Also, selected portions of the database may be transferred from the host computer to the portable terminal by entering selected identifying information into the portable terminal. Thus, the database within the host computer may be managed or edited by the portable terminal.

By using the system of the invention, for example, in a large computer center having many machines, a substantial amount of maintenance time can be saved by providing an easy system to locate a particular target machine on the site. Additionally, maintenance time can be reduced if once a particular target machine has been identified, information about the target machine can be provided on site. Also, a user may locate the position of a target machine when that position is unknown to the user by entering information which identifies the target machine into the portable terminal. The portable terminal may then send the identification information to the host computer which responds by transmitting location information back to the portable terminal identifying the location of the target machine, independent of location of the user. This location information, for example, may include a map of the floor showing the target machine's location so that the user of the portable terminal is presented with a graphic image of the machine's location on the floor relative to other machines and other structures and objects identified on the map.

To anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, the applied reference must teach each and every element of the claim. Accordingly, a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Eros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 10.1, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). However, Naito does not show all of the features of the claimed invention.

The Examiner is of the opinion that the Naito reference is directed to a system for managing objects. To support the Examiner's opinion, the Examiner cites col. 3, lines 22-25 for this proposition. However, Naito is directed to an information reporting system having a communication host apparatus including a database storing a plurality of data sets each concerning predetermined positions. The portable terminal of Naito includes a current position detecting unit for detecting its current position, and transmits such position information data indicative of the portable terminal's current position. The host computer is configured to read out from the database one of the data sets concerning the position corresponding to the provided position information data from the portable terminal and supplies the portable terminal with the data set. (Abstract).

Thus, the portable terminal of Naito is configured to sense its own position, and transmit that position to a host computer. (Col. 5, lns. 1-28). That is, the Naito system is not independent of the current position of the portable terminal. Instead, the location of the portable terminal is a critically important aspect of the Naito system in that it is the basis for retrieving location information. Additionally, the Naito system does not manage objects, it is merely a map which may include detour information.

Thus, because Naito may only sense and transmit the portable terminal's position, Naito is unable to receive inputs from a user regarding an object to be managed and have the host computer respond to such inputs by providing information about the entered object. In particular, the display unit of the portable terminal of Naito displays images corresponding to the results of data processing by the data processing unit or data input by the user. Applicants particularly point out that Naito does not show or even contemplate displaying anything but a map image on the display screen of the portable terminal. Thus, Naito cannot provide information about objects identified and inputted by a user of the portable terminal, nor is Naito directed to finding objects to be managed.

Additionally, in contrast with Naito, claim 2 sets forth an embodiment wherein the portable terminal machine includes a searching unit for searching the database according to the

retrieval condition to obtain the position data from the database when the attribute data of the object to be managed matches the retrieval condition. Accordingly, claim 2 is in allowable condition.

Claim 6 further includes a retrieval system having a host computer including a database, which database is output by the host computer on request, in which retrieval information and position information of objects to be managed are held in relation to each other. The retrieval system additionally includes a searching unit for searching the retrieval information in the database according to a condition specified by a user to identify a match between the retrieval information and the condition and consequently to identify position information of a particular object. The portable terminal machine also includes a map display unit for displaying a position where the particular object is managed on a map according to the position information.

As discussed above, Naito automatically senses and transmits position information from the portable terminal to a host computer, and the host computer responds by sending image information to be displayed on the portable terminal. As such, Naito is unable to receive information from a user regarding a particular object and match that information to an object where attributes of the object are stored in a database. Accordingly, because Naito is limited to sensing and transmitting position data and displaying image data, Naito fails to disclose a retrieval system in which retrieval information and position information of objects to be managed are held in relation to each other, as set forth in claim 6.

Claim 7 further includes position data used to locate the object to be managed on the map, and attribute data used to identify the object to be managed. The position data is stored in relation to the attribute data. The portable position display apparatus also includes a searching unit for searching the database stored in the data storing unit according to the retrieval condition to identify a match between the attribute data and the retrieval condition and consequently to identify position data of the object to be managed.

As discussed above, Naito is configured to automatically sense the position of a portable terminal, and transmit and receive image information to and from a host, relating to that position.

As also discussed above, Naito is configured only to display image information, and thus cannot display attribute information of objects identified by a user. Additionally, since Naito only displays images relating to position of the portable terminal, Naito is not configured for object management by allowing a user to enter an object identifier independent of the position of the portable terminal and receive image information showing the position of the identified object, as well as receive attribute information about the identified object. Thus, a user of Naito cannot enter information to identify a target machine or otherwise to learn the location of such object.

Accordingly, claim 7 is in allowable condition. Claims 8 and 9 are allowable at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 7 from which they depend, as well as for their added features. Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claims 7-9 be withdrawn.

Claim 13 further includes prompting a user to specify a specific object to be managed from among the plurality of objects to be managed, and reading the map data and the position data of the specific object to be managed from the database. The embodiment further includes displaying the position of the specific object to be managed in the area on the map according to the map data and the position data read from the database. However, Naito does not allow entering, transmitting and receiving information for object management. Accordingly, Naito fails to disclose the features of claim 13. Claims 14-16 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claim 13 from which they depend, as well as for their added features.

The display screen of Naito is only configured to display image information, and does not allow a position of an object to be entered by a user. More specifically, Naito does not allow a user to input the position of an object by drawing the object on the appropriate place on the image displayed on the display screen.

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Serial No.: 09/970,968

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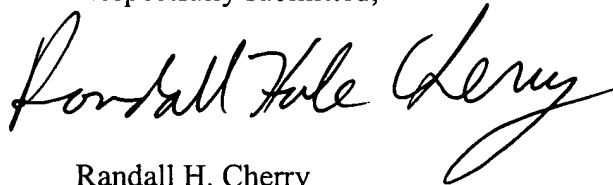
New Claims

By this amendment, new claims 19 and 20 are added. Claims 19 and 20 are dependent claims and include allowable subject matter. Prompt examination and allowance in due course is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Applicant hereby makes a written conditional petition for extension of time, if required. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 09-0457.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randall H. Cherry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Randall" being the most prominent part.

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